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Economic and Social Council

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Agenda item 13 (g)
Economic and environmental questions: public administration and development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Léo Mérorès (Haiti), on the basis of informal consultations

Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its sixth session and dates, venue and provisional agenda for the seventh session of the Committee

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 2005/55 of 21 October 2005, in particular its reaffirmation of the need to deepen the participatory processes of government to ensure citizens' engagement to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration,[1] and 2006/47 of 28 July 2006,

Concerned by the continuous marginalization of the poor and the disadvantaged in this era of globalization, which has led to decreasing trust in government on the part of citizens,

Recognizing that the implementation of the United Nations development agenda and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals can be greatly facilitated if citizens are involved in participatory mechanisms pertaining to the planning, budgeting, implementation, monitoring and accountability of socio-economic development policies and programmes, and that such mechanisms of participatory governance help ensure efficiency and economic growth on the one hand and social justice on the other,

1. *Takes note* of the conclusions on this topic contained in the report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its sixth session;[2]

[1] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[2] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2007, Supplement No. 24* (E/2007/44), chap. III.B.

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2. *Encourages* Member States to reaffirm and deepen their use of participatory governance and citizen engagement in policy development, service delivery and budgeting and public accountability with enabling mechanisms, including information and communications technology tools and other measures;

3. *Requests* the Secretariat to ensure that the normative, analytical and technical cooperation elements of the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance continue to address participatory governance and identify best practices;

4. *Notes* the work undertaken by the Committee on compiling and, where needed, conceptually defining basic United Nations terminology in governance and public administration with a view to achieving more coherence in intergovernmental discussions;

5. *Takes note* of the input by the Committee on the theme of the annual ministerial review to be held during the 2007 high-level segment of the Council and the proposals for themes for the ministerial review of 2008;

6. *Requests* the Secretariat to continue to expand the reach of the United Nations Public Service Awards on the United Nations Public Service Day as part of the effort to foster and disseminate excellence in public governance;

7. *Also requests* the Secretariat to expand the outreach of the portal of the United Nations Online Network in Public Administration and Finance at the regional and subregional levels among its participating members as a one-stop shop for promoting information-sharing, knowledge management and networking among public sector leaders around the world;

8. *Further requests* the Secretariat to continue its useful role in facilitating the implementation of the relevant action lines contained in the Plan of Action of the World Summit on the Information Society;[3]

9. *Welcomes* the holding of the seventh Global Forum on Reinventing Government in Vienna from 26 to 29 June 2007, and congratulates the Secretariat for its preparations, in particular the high quality of the programme;

10. *Encourages* Member States to participate in and support the marking of the sixtieth year of the work of the United Nations in the area of public administration and development;

11. *Approves* the convening of the seventh session of the Committee from 14 to 18 April 2008;

12. *Also approves* the following agenda for the seventh session of the Committee:

1. Capacity-building for development, including post-conflict reconstruction of public administration and crisis/disaster management.

[3] See A/C.2/59/3, annex, chap. I, sect. B, action lines C1, "The role of governments and all stakeholders in the promotion of information and communications technologies for development" and C7, "Information and communications technology applications: benefits in all aspects of life".

2. Compendium of basic United Nations terminology in governance and public administration.

3. Review of the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance.

4. Public administration perspective on the theme of the annual ministerial review of the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council.